(b) whether it is a fact that a demand has been made for such a review from wide sections of opinion; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) (a) to (c) : Some representations have been received from a few officers of 1962 batch of IAS as also from some other sources on their behalf for review of their cases for empanelment to hold Secretary level posts at the Centre. The extant policy provides for a review every two years.

Appointment of Special Secretaries to Government of India

4361. SHRI MATANG SING : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some officers of 1962 I.A.S. batch have been posted as Special Secretaries to Government of India without any Ministry experience earlier;

(b) the names of such officers; and

(c) the steps being taken to remove such officers from critical posts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Promotion of Stenographers

4362. SHRI MD. SALIM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Stenographers (Grade "D") do not get a promotion for 17 to 19 years and the officers (IAS) under whom they are working get promotion in every 4 to 5 years;

(b) what are the measures taken by Government so far, if any to alleviate this stagnation, and the percentage of people benefited by it year-wise;

(c) what are the reasons for this inordinate delay in their promotion;

(d) whether it is a fact that a person who joints as LDC later opts to become a Stenographer (Grade "D") remains stagnant for too long where-as an LDC who prefer to remain as LDC gets promotion easily;

(e) whether LDC is informed about the stagnating promotional aspect before he opts to become Stenographer (Grade "D") from LDC; and

(f) whether Government would consider the option of allowing the Stenographer (Grade "D") to go back to clerical cadre if they have come from that cadre, if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) At present Stenographers Gr. 'D' of the Central Secretariat Stenographers Service (CSSS) take about 16 to 18 years for their promotion on the basis of seniority. IAS and CSSS are not comparable services.

(b) The measures taken so far include :

(i) Increasing the Seniority quota in Grade C of CSSS from 25% to 60% for Select List 1989, and to 50% for Select List 1991; and

(ii) Diversion of unfilled direct recruitment vacancies in Grade C to seniority quota from Select List 1990 onwards.

Stenographers Grade 'D' of the CSSS being a decentralised grade, information regarding the percentage of Steno Grade 'D' benefitted from these measures is not centrally monitored/ available.

(c) The main reason is recruitment of large numbers to Grade 'D' of CSSS during certain years.

(d) An LDC can become Stenographer Gr. 'D' by competing successfully in the prescribed examinations. Promotional prospects for Stenographers Gr. 'D' are different from those of LDCs who belong to a different grade of another service.

(e) The prevailing promotion prospects of Stenographers Grade 'D' are expected to be within the knowledge of the concerned LDCs.